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Allums  
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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
GROUP 2731  
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: A7489

**RECEIVED**

Robert BURNETT

JUN 24 2003

Appln. No.: 09/343,517

Group Art Unit: 2731

Technology Center 2600

Confirmation No.: 8018

Examiner: Derrick W. Ferris

Filed: June 30, 1999

For: TECHINQUE TO MANAGE REMOTE IP NE'S THROUGH THE SONET DCC

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

**MAIL STOP AF**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 20, 2003, please consider the remarks as submitted herewith.

**REMARKS**

This Response, submitted in response to the Office Action dated February 20, 2003, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-23 remain pending in the application and further remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Mazzola in view of Katz (both references are previously of record). Applicant submits the following arguments in traversal over the prior art rejections.